



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Koichi Ono
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Examiner :

Confirmation No.:

Docket No. : 03-485
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

- (1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 11-58437 (published on March 2, 1999). The document is in Japanese; however an English Abstract is attached.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

KOICHI ONO

By

Gregory P. LaPointe
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Date: December 22, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on December 22, 2003.

Lori J. Larson

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known

Attorney Docket Number | 03-485

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[illegible][illegible]Date
Considered

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**